

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for warning the operator that the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position prior to ignition of the outboard motor, an alarm in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor ~~[[are]]~~ via radio frequency signals;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the alarm is activated by the microprocessor to warn the operator.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor and the ignition system; and

a means for warning the operator that the outboard motor is tilted beyond a maximum safe tilt position prior to ignition of the outboard motor, an alarm in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications ~~[[are]]~~ with the microprocessor and the communications are superimposed over existing wiring of a power boat,

wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the alarm is activated by the microprocessor to warn the operator.

3. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor; and

a means for disabling an ignition system of the outboard motor to prevent an operator from starting the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, an ignition disabling switch the means being in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the communications are via radio frequency signals

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the ignition disabling switch is activated by the microprocessor to prevent the operator from starting the ignition system.~~

4. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor and the ignition system; and

a means for disabling an ignition system of the outboard motor to prevent an operator from starting the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, an ignition disabling switch the means being in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the communications are superimposed over existing wiring of a power boat;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the ignition disabling switch is activated by the microprocessor to prevent the operator from starting the ignition system.~~

5. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor; and

a means for automatically lowering the outboard motor prior to ignition of the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, ~~a tilt circuit in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor~~ [[are]] via radio frequency signals;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the tilt circuit is activated by the microprocessor to automatically lower the outboard motor.~~

6. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor and the ignition system; and

a means for automatically lowering the outboard motor prior to ignition of the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, ~~a tilt circuit in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor and [[are]] the communications being superimposed over existing wiring of a powerboat and through the microprocessor;~~

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the tilt circuit is activated by the microprocessor to automatically lower the outboard motor.~~

7. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for warning the operator that the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position prior to ignition of the outboard motor, ~~an alarm in communication with the outboard motor position sensor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor [[are]] via infrared signals and through the microprocessor,~~

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the alarm is activated by the outboard motor position sensor to warn the operator.~~

8. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for disabling an ignition system of the outboard motor to prevent an operator from starting the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, an ignition disabling switch the means being in communication with the outboard motor position sensor, wherein the communications are via infrared signals and through the microprocessor;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the ignition disabling switch is activated by the outboard motor position sensor to prevent the operator from starting the ignition system.~~

9. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for automatically lowering the outboard motor prior to ignition of the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, ~~a tilt circuit in communication with the outboard motor position sensor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor~~ [[are]] via infrared signals and through the microprocessor,

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the tilt circuit is activated by the outboard motor position sensor to automatically lower the outboard motor.~~